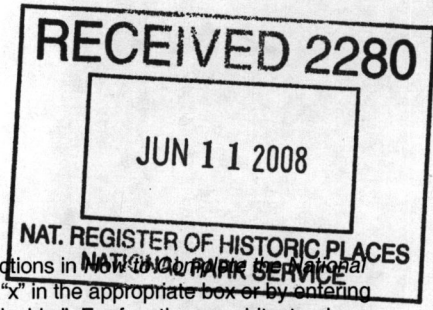


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

698



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name General Walter Martin House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 6575 Main Street (New York Route 26) [] not for publication

city or town Martinsburg [] vicinity

state New York code NY county Lewis code 049 zip code 13404

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] nomination [] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements as set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. in my opinion, the property [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [] nationally [] statewide [X] locally. ([] see continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Ruth A. Puerper, DSHPO
Signature of certifying official/Title

6/2/08
Date

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. ([] see continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register [] see continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register [] see continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain) _____

Signature of the Keeper

date of action

Edson H. Beall 7-24-08

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

- [X] private
[] public-local
[] public-State
[] public-Federal

- [X] building(s)
[] district
[] site
[] structure
[] object

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Non-contributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, and TOTAL. Values: 1, 0, 0, 0, 1.

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC/Federal, Greek Revival

foundation STONE

walls STONE

roof ASPHALT, METAL

other

Narrative Description (See continuation sheet)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

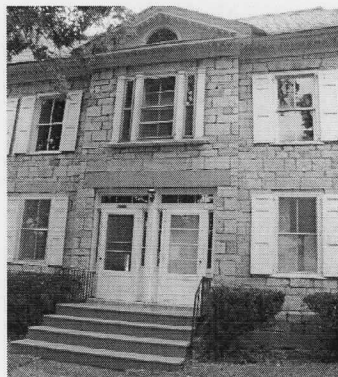
General Walter Martin House
Name of Property
Martinsburg, Lewis Co. NY
County and State

Description

The General Walter Martin House is located on the west side of Main Street (New York Route 26) in the hamlet of Martinsburg, Lewis County. The nominated property consists of a stone masonry residence on a parcel of 2.2 acres. The main house is set back from the street behind a lawn and several tall shade trees. The Martin House is a large and imposing building on Martinsburg's principal thoroughfare, located in a context of residential, civic and commercial buildings constructed during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. There are no extant outbuildings on the nominated parcel.



The form of the Martin House is symmetrical, consisting of the original two story, hip roofed, stone, Federal style main block built completed in 1805 and Greek Revival flanking wings added circa 1835. The residence is oriented with its principal elevation facing east. The double-pile main block is nearly square (44' x 50'), with a cut limestone masonry block walls erected above a full basement with water table. The masonry of the formal front is laid regular ashlar; the smaller stones of the side and rear walls are laid random ashlar. The corners of the building incorporate stone quoins. The flanking symmetrical stone wings attached to the north and south ends of the main block are characterized by stepped gable ends, covered, one-story raised porches on the street elevation and wood frame extensions that project backward (west) beyond the end walls of the original structure. The formal front of the residence is divided into five bays with a projecting center pavilion surmounted by a triangular pediment. A molded, denticulated wood cornice defines the roofline. The original single entrance door was replaced during the Greek Revival renovation that occurred circa 1835. The present entrance consists of a pair of separate, identical paneled doors with sidelights, glass transoms and molded wood architraves beneath a single stone lintel. A Federal tripartite window with molded trim is located above the entrance.



**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

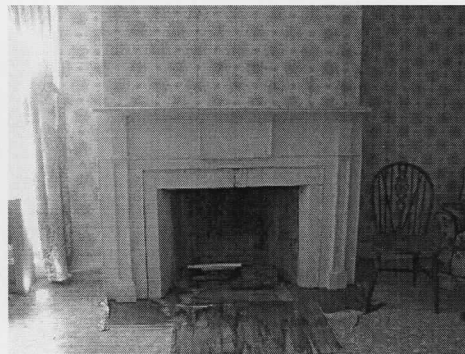
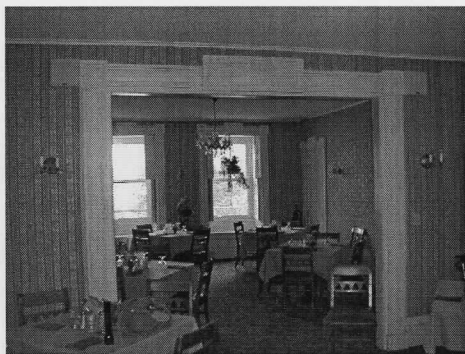
**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 2

General Walter Martin House
Name of Property
Martinsburg, Lewis Co. NY
County and State

Four tall interior chimneys rise above the hipped roof at the north and south ends of the main block. The porch roofs of the two wings are supported by fluted wood columns with capitals. Each wing has a separate door with glass transom, tall casement windows above molded panels, flush board sheathing beneath the porch roof and Tuscan pilasters with acanthus-leaf embellishment. Fenestration throughout the building is regular and symmetrical, generally consisting of rectangular openings with smooth stone lintels and cut stone sills. No extant window sash remains from the original Federal period house; several examples of 6/6 Greek Revival sash remain. Most windows contain 2/2 movable wood sash from the late nineteenth century or later replacements.

The interior of the General Walter Martin House is organized around a modified center hall plan. The original entry/stair hall of the 1805 plan was altered during the Greek Revival period when the building was altered for occupancy by two families. The center hall was divided by means of a partition wall (since removed) and the addition of a second staircase parallel to the first. (Both staircases remain in place.) The interior of the first floor was extensively remodeled during the Greek Revival period. The formal rooms exhibit finely crafted carved fireplace mantels, molded door and window architraves, recessed interior shutters, paneled doors and wide plank floors. More simple but delicate Federal period moldings and mantels remain in the rooms of the second floor, which also feature lath and plaster walls and plank floors.



Name of Property

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [X] A Property associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
[] B Property is associated with the lives of persons
[X] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
[] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

- [] A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
[] B removed from its original location
[] C a birthplace or grave
[] D a cemetery
[] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure
[] F a commemorative property
[] G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance:

(Enter categories from instructions)

SETTLEMENT

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance:

1805--1835

Significant Dates:

1805; 1835

Significant Person:

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect/Builder:

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

(See continuation sheet)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Hough, Franklin B. A History of Lewis County, New York. Albany, 1860.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- [] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
[] previously listed in the National Register
[] previously determined eligible by the National Register
[] designated a National Historic Landmark
[] recorded by historic American Building Survey #
[] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- [X] State Historic Preservation Office
[] Other State agency
[] Federal Agency
[] Local Government
[] University
[] Other repository:

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 1

General Walter Martin House
Name of Property
Martinsburg, Lewis Co., NY
County and State

Statement of Significance

The General Walter Martin House is significant under criteria A and C as a distinguished and highly intact example of a Federal/Greek Revival estate house historically associated with a prominent early settler of Lewis County. Originally constructed in 1805 as the imposing limestone masonry residence of financier, substantial landowner and civic leader General Walter Martin, the nominated building was extensively renovated by Martin's sons following his death in 1834. Exhibiting the fine vernacular craftsmanship and materials characteristic of regional building practice during the early nineteenth century, The Martin House reflects the evolution of family tastes and use of the property over two generations. Walter Martin is significant as a landed farmer, businessman and public figure in the early history of frontier Lewis County. (The period of significance extends from the date of construction, 1805, to circa 1835, the date of the last significant architectural changes to the property.)

Lewis County was established March 28, 1805, when it was taken off from a portion of Oneida County. Characterized by abundant timber, sources of water power and rolling hills suitable for dairy farming, Lewis County attracted a number of large land speculators and New England immigrants following the close of the Revolutionary War. One of the most influential of these early investor/settlers was Walter Martin (1766-1834), founder and namesake of the town of Martinsburg. Centrally located in the present Lewis County, Martinsburg occupies a limestone ridge at the eastern edge of the Tug Hill Plateau, which thereafter descends gradually toward the valley of the Black River.

Born in Sturbridge, Massachusetts, Walter Martin came to the Black River country in 1801 after a brief sojourn in Washington County, New York. Purchasing 8,000 acres of land from James Constable for \$1.50/acre, Martin in turn sold land to individuals who followed him to the Black River country for the price of \$5.00/acre. Anticipating formation of the new county as early as 1803, Martin sought to have the county seat established on his landholdings at Martinsburg. Accordingly, Walter Martin initiated a subscription to raise funds for construction of a courthouse. Martin's influence ultimately proved successful; the first Lewis County Courthouse (National Register, 2001) was erected at Martinsburg in 1812. Martin donated a building site and substantial money for construction of the courthouse with the stipulation that, should the building cease to be used for public purposes, it would revert to his estate. (Martinsburg remained the Lewis County seat until 1864, when it was relocated to Lowville.) Martin's business investments and civic improvements in Martinsburg were many and varied: He erected water-powered mills, owned commercial and residential properties, subsidized construction of a church, school and bridges and established a local newspaper. He served at various times as a local justice, postmaster, commissioner of roads and state senator. A Lieutenant Colonel in the state militia, Walter Martin served briefly on the northern frontier during the War of 1812, for which he was brevetted Brigadier General (a title he proudly retained for the remainder of his life.) Walter Martin is significant as a leading force in the establishment of Lewis County and one of the region's most dynamic and visionary pioneers.

As one of Lewis County's most ambitious and prosperous early citizens, Walter Martin erected a substantial cut limestone residence reflective of his status on the northern New York frontier. His Martinsburg house of 1805 exhibited refined craftsmanship and design features rare in the unsettled region of Lewis County during the Federal period. The two story, double pile, limestone main block reflects late Georgian/Adamesque design influences more typically found in eastern cities. As a native New Englander of refined tastes, Walter Martin brought familiarity with current architectural tastes to Martinsburg, where undoubtedly he recruited and instructed builders who could create his vision of a manorial country seat. The General Walter Martin House is significant as one of the earliest and most intact examples of Federal period residential design and construction in Lewis County. After General Martin's death in 1834, the residence passed to his two sons, John and David Martin, who undertook to update their father's house in the fashionable Greek Revival style. In 1835, flanking stone wings were added to the original house, the center hall was partitioned and separate front entrances were installed. The formal first-floor rooms were re-decorated with Greek Revival moldings and mantels and both families proceeded to occupy the large residence for another generation. In the quality and extent of architectural renovations made by the Martin heirs in 1835, the General Walter Martin House remains an important document of changes in taste over time in the community founded by their father in 1803-1805.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 2

General Walter Martin House
Name of Property
Martinsburg, Lewis Co., NY
County and State

The Martin House passed through a succession of owners during the late nineteenth-early twentieth centuries. After the First World War, the building served briefly as a convalescent home for wounded Canadian veterans. In later years as "Greystone Manor," the Martin House was occupied by a tearoom and restaurant. Acquired by the Lewis County Historical Society in 2005, the General Walter Martin House currently is undergoing plans for structural stabilization, restoration and interpretation as the home of Martinsburg's founding family.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.2 acres

Glenfield quad.

UTM References

1 18 462204 4842870 3 18 Easting Northing
2 18 Easting Northing
4 18 Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property includes all that parcel delineated on the enclosed tax map.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the historic building on the original parcel as delineated on the enclosed tax map.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Raymond W. Smith, Program Analyst
organization New York State Office of Parks, Rec. & Historic Preservation date December, 2007
street & number Peebles Island, PO Box 189 telephone 518-237-8643
city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188-0189

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name
street & number telephone
city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20503

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

General Walter Martin House
Name of Property
Martinsburg, Lewis Co., NY
County and State

All photographs:
General Walter Martin House
Martinsburg, Lewis Co., NY
Lisa Becker, 2008
Negatives @ NYSHPO, Waterford, NY

Photo 1: Principal (East) elevation, view W;

Photo 2: South wing detail, view N;

Photo 3: North wing detail, view W;

Photo 4: Entrance pavilion detail, front (East) elevation;

Photo 5: Rear (West) elevation (frame wings and stone main block), view SE;

Photo 6: South end wings, view NE.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY General Walter Martin House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Lewis

DATE RECEIVED: 6/11/08 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/01/08
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/16/08 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/25/08
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST: ED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08000698

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 7.24.08 DATE

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Lewis
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



GEN. WALTER MARTIN HOUSE

MARTINSBURG, WEST CO. NY

Photo 1



GEN. WALTER MARTIN HOUSE
MARTINSBURG, KEWIS CO. NY

PHOTO 2



GEN. WALTER MARTIN HOUSE
MARTINSBURG, LEWIS CO. N Y

PHOTO 3



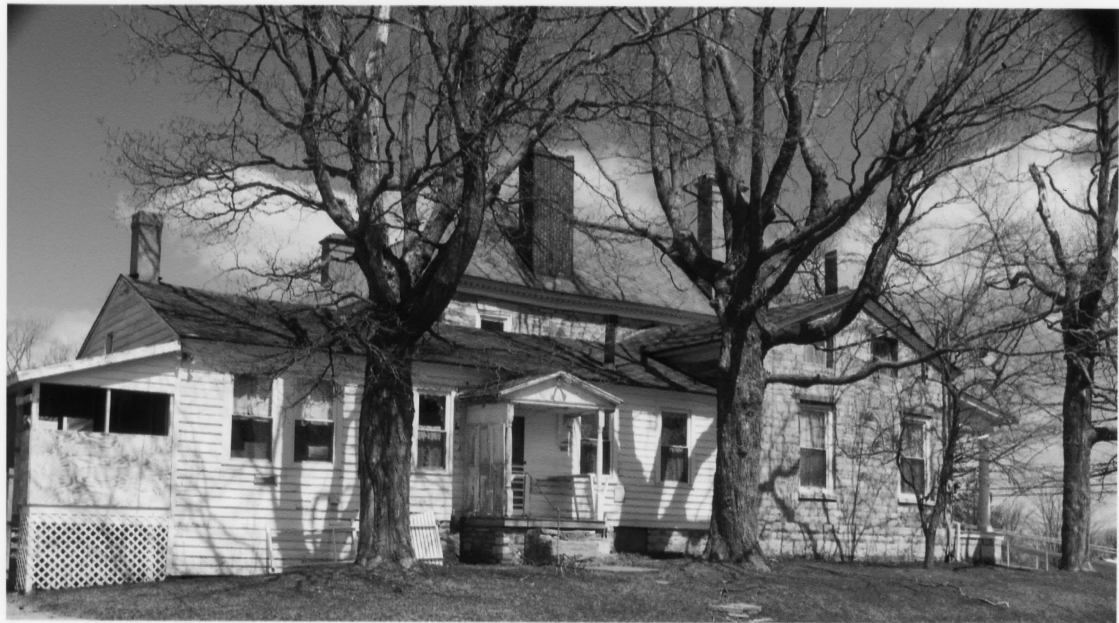
GEN. WALTER MARSH HOBBS
MARTINSBURG, LEWIS CO. NY

Photo 11



GEN. WALTER MARTIN HOUSE
MARTINSBURG, LEWIS CO. NY

~~Photo~~ 5



GEN. WATERMAN MARTIN HOUSE
MARTINSBURG, LEWIS CO. N Y

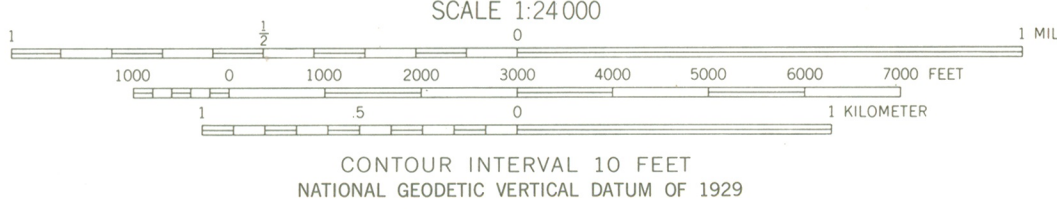
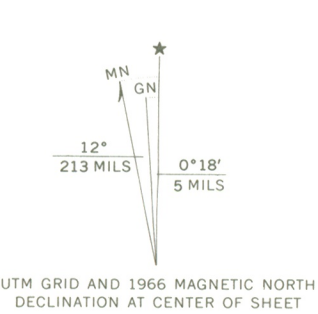
Photo 6



GEN. WALTER MARTIN HOUSE
MARTINSBURG, LEWIS CO. NY
GLENFIELD QUAD.
18/162204/18 102870



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1966
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on New York coordinate system, central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
	State Route

GLENFIELD, N.Y.
N4337.5—W7522.5/7.5
1966
AMS 5971 III NW—SERIES V821

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Lewis County Historical Society

7552 South State Street
P.O. Box 446
Lowville, New York 13367
(315) 376-8957

NOV 30 2007

November 25, 2007

Ms. Ruth L. Pierpont
Director
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
SHPO
POB 189
Waterford, New York 12188-0189

Re: General Walter Martin Mansion
Martinsburg, Lewis County

Dear Ms. Pierpont

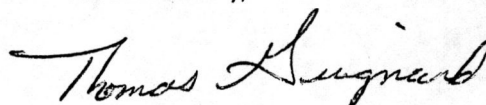
It is with great pleasure that the Board of Lewis County Historical Society, owners of the General Walter Martin Mansion located in Martinsburg, Lewis County, New York, unanimously endorse the nomination of this structure to the National and State Registers of Historic Places.

As you are aware Martin: was an entrepreneur of his day; was solely responsible for the location of the 1st county seat in Martinsburg; was responsible for starting numerous businesses, along with bankrolling the construction of many structures within this immediate community including his stately home under consideration; and, perhaps most importantly, was directly involved in discussions leading to the creation and setting off of both Lewis and Jefferson Counties from Oneida.

Credit must be given to SHPO representatives whose swift work and decisions played a key role in Lewis County Historical Society acquiring this magnificent structure to preserve on behalf of the citizens of New York. Had Lewis County Historical Society not been given access to mitigation funds from the Flat Rock Wind Power Project, now referred to as Maple Ridge Wind Power it is possible the structure may today be in private hands.

I look forward to personally giving you a tour of the General Walter Martin Mansion on your next trip to Lewis County.

Most sincerely,



Thomas Guignard
President
Lewis County Historical Society

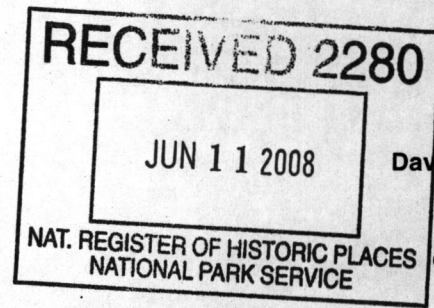


**New York State Office of Parks,
Recreation and Historic Preservation**

Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau • Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

www.nysparks.com



David A. Paterson
Governor

Carol Ash
Commissioner

June 10, 2008

Ms. Alexis Abernathy
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye St. NW
8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

**Re: Transmittal of National Register
Nominations**

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to transmit four new National Register nominations to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register as follows:

Pulver-Bird House, Hunns Lake, Dutchess Co., NY

Smyrna Town Hall / Opera House, Smyrna, Chenango Co., NY

General Walter Martin House, Martinsburg, Lewis Co., NY

Thank you for your assistance in processing these proposals. Please feel free to call on me at 518-237-8643 ext. 3258 if any questions arise.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Peckham
National Register
Program Coordinator

enclosures